

REMARKS

Claims 54-55, 58-63, 65-66, 71, 77-78, 80-81, 85, 87-88, 90, 92-94, 96 and 100-107 were all rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0026851 to Schaede et al. (hereinafter "Schaede"). In addition, claim 56 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaede as applied to claim 54, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,166,366 to Lewis et al. In addition, claim 57 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaede as applied to claim 54 and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,299,325 to Quinton et al. In addition, claim 62-76 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaede as applied to claim 54, and further in view of Canadian Publication No. 2407810. In addition, claims 77-86 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaede as applied to claim 54, and further in view of Canadian Publication No. 2407810. In addition, claims 87-92 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaede as applied to claim 54, and further in view of Canadian Publication No. 2407810. In addition, claims 94-99 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Schaede as applied to claim 93, and further in view of Canadian Publication No. 2407810.

Since all of the rejections depend upon the Schaede reference, Applicant traverses all of the rejections for the reasons that follow.

Contrary to the Examiner's opinion expressed on page 3, third paragraph, of the Office Action mailed January 17, 2006, the Schaede reference does not disclose "a third transport cylinder having a **solid transparent** casing" such as defined in amended claim 54 of the present application, but rather has cutouts 84 as shows in Figure 7 of Schaede, which are also described in paragraph [0084] and also in paragraph [0040] of Schaede.

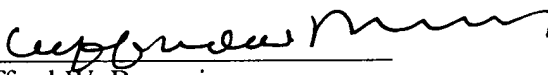
Applicants believe that a cylinder with cutouts is different from a cylinder comprising a solid transparent casing. As a matter of fact, cutouts are holes, while a solid transparent casing is a casing made of a solid transparent material, i.e., a hole free material.

In the present invention, the sheets are supported on the solid transparent casing, while in Schaede, sheets are transported on the outer part of the cylinder by means of suction imparted through the cutouts.

Furthermore, Applicants note that the Schaede reference does not disclose three transport cylinders for inspection, but rather two conveying devices within which are placed inspection means, the inspection by transparency being combined with one of the reflection inspections within a single unique conveying device.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully assert that a proper consideration of the Schaede reference shows that it clearly does not anticipate or render obvious the present invention as presently claimed in amended claims 54-107.

Respectfully submitted:

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